

REMARKS

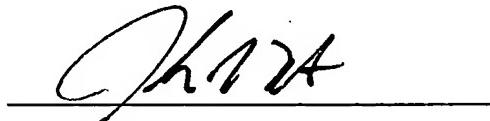
Claims 8-24 are pending in this application. By this Preliminary Amendment, Applicant AMENDS the specification and the abstract of the disclosure, CANCELS claims 1-7 and ADDS new claims 8-24.

Applicant has attached hereto a Substitute Specification in order to make corrections of minor informalities contained in the originally filed specification. Applicant's undersigned representative hereby declares and states that the Substitute Specification filed concurrently herewith does not add any new matter whatsoever to the above-identified patent application. Accordingly, entry and consideration of the Substitute Specification are respectfully requested.

The changes to the specification have been made to correct minor informalities to facilitate examination of the present application.

Applicant respectfully submits that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance are respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



Attnorneys for Applicant

Joseph R. Keating  
Registration No. 37,368

Christopher A. Bennett  
Registration No. 46,710

Peter Medley  
Registration No. 56,125

Stephen R. Funk  
Registration No. 57,751

**KEATING & BENNETT, LLP**  
8180 Greensboro Drive, Suite 850  
Tyson's Corner, Virginia 22102  
Telephone: (703) 637-1480  
Facsimile: (703) 637-1499